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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 3651  
Dkt. 1461/65353

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Do Not  
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Application of : Tamaki KANEKO  
Serial No. : 09/896,737  
Date Filed : June 29, 2001  
For : SHEET FOLDING AND BINDING APPARATUS AND METHOD

Group Art Unit: 3651  
Examiner: P. Mackey  
1185 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, N.Y. 10036

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
**BOX AF**  
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION

**RECEIVED**

MAY 02 2003

**GROUP 3600**

Sir:

In response to the final Office Action dated February 14, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 20, 30, 31, 34 and 35 as follows:

- 31
1. (Amended) A binding apparatus, comprising:  
a receiving device configured to receive a sheet from outside and convey the sheet;

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Richard F. Jaworski  
Reg. No. 33,515  
Date April 24, 2003